

# The Palmetto Partisan

Three time winner of the  
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newsletter award.



The official publication of the SOUTH CAROLINA DIVISION, SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

## Columbus Convention Votes Dues Increase

# SCV Springs for Permanent Headquarters

**Columbus, Ga. --** The Sons of Confederate Veterans met at the historic Iron Works Convention Center in Columbus, Georgia 1 - 3 August 1991 for their annual General Reunion. The chief topics were the proposed purchase of a permanent national headquarters and an increase in national dues.

By voice vote the convention accepted the recommendation of the Permanent Headquarters Committee. The committee's proposal included the purchase of Elm Springs plantation for \$350,000 and a \$5 increase in national dues.

Elm Springs is currently the home of a Compatriot from Tennessee, and was the ante-bellum home of a Confederate officer. The house and ten acres of land were valued at \$1.3 million and will be sold for \$400,000 in payments or for \$350,000 cash. The site will eventually house the offices and the records and archives of the SCV and may be used as a museum.

The dues increase is intended to cover expenses for a full-time director to eventually assume the duties which are currently performed free of charge by **Adjutant-in-Chief William D. McCain**. The organization's records and archives are presently stored in

Adj. McCain's home and the War Memorial Building in Jackson, Mississippi. On 1 August the operating funds of the SCV stood at \$71,773.01, while another \$369,966.42 resides in CD's at 7.65% interest.

The Elm Springs site will be paid for by the nearly half-million dollar combined funds of the SCV and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars (which will share the facility) and through private donations.

PHQ Committee Chairman **Bob Hawkins** of Missouri, in presenting the proposal, emphasized that if the convention delegates supported the site they should be prepared to return to their Camps and help raise the necessary funds for its acquisition and operation.

When the vote was finally called for another point of contention arose when the chair called for a voice vote despite a previous motion for Call of the Roll By

See PHQ Adopted -- page 2.

## Commentary on the National Convention

*By Tim Bradshaw*

The Sons of Confederate Veterans took an historic step into the future at it's 95th Annual Reunion. Without question the most important matter that was decided was the choice of a site for our national headquarters.

The SCV has been forced to crawl for the past 95 years, fettered as it was without a physical center. As one delegate said during debate, "It is time this baby learned to walk." No longer will historic records and documents sit in mildewed cardboard boxes in an old garage. Now, we can seek corporate donations, using stationery with our beautiful headquarters at its head. Finally, fundraising can have focused goals: research facilities, a library, a museum, and computerized records.

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## SC DIVISION CONVENES IN NEWBERRY

- \*Awards Presented
- \*Constitution Adopted
- \*Appointments Announced

*see page 2 for details*



## Appointments Announced

South Carolina Division Commander **Bob Brown** has announced the appointment of two new officers in the Division. **Compatriot Vance B. Drawdy** of Greenville as Judge Advocate, and **Cmt. Dennis E. Todd** of Columbia as Historian.

Cmt. Todd is a member of the Wade Hampton Camp. His duties include compiling an ongoing S.C. Division history, coordinating requests for historical information, and assisting the Commander as needed.

In addition Cmt. Todd has also been appointed to the Division Heritage Committee where he will serve as chief advisor and coordinator of SCV projects.

Cmt. Drawdy is a Past-Commander of the 16TH REGIMENT, S.C.V. in Greenville, a past Division Commander, and Past-Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. As Judge Advocate he will be responsible for advising the Commander and the Executive Council on interpretation and administration of the constitution and other legal matters.

## Division Convenes in Newberry

**Newberry** - The John M. Kinard Camp, **Will Culbreath** Commander, hosted the South Carolina Division for the annual convention 20 April 1991.

The major item of business was the adoption of a new constitution for the Division. The convention keynote speaker was General Grimsley, past president of The Citadel.

This year also saw the institution of the Outstanding South

## PHQ Adopted

Camps. The final decision was, none the less, in favor of the committee's recommendation. The Executive Council will negotiate the purchase in the next few months.

Midway through the session Mrs. Alberta Martin of Elba, Alabama was presented to the convention. Her husband, William Jasper Martin, served with the 4TH ALABAMA, and she is the last Confederate widow in Alabama.

At her request Com. E.M. Clark promised a Confederate flag from the State Capitol.

In other business Camp Moore, which had previously been considered as a PHQ site, was returned to the state of Louisiana. The Louisiana Div. may pick up the \$1 lease and operate the facility as a museum.

A credit card plan has been developed which is predicted to clear \$20,000 for the SCV.

The Division was represented at the convention by 16 delegates from seven Camps. Also, several South Carolinians received individual honors and recognition (See box above).

### Division Awards

#### *Distinguished Service Medal*

Robert L. Brown, *Sumter*  
Lloyd H. Deiler, Jr., *Florence*  
Randall Burbage, *Charleston*  
Dennis E. Todd, *Columbia*

#### *Meritorius Service Medal*

Marion Hutson, *Columbia*  
Rusty Rentz, *Columbia*  
C.M. Sullivan, *Greenville*

#### *Dixie Club (Recruiting Award)*

Dennis E. Todd, *Columbia*  
E.M. Clark, *Columbia*  
William Tisdale, *Florence*  
William T. Grissop, *Greenville*  
Randy Burbage, *Charleston*  
Rod Chumley, *Sumter*

## Division Responds to PBS

On 20 May SCETV "Crosstalk" aired a live 90-minute call-in edition entitled "The Civil War: A Southern Response", and resulted from pressure from the SCV. Representing the Southern view were **Dr. M.E. Bradford** (Texas) and **Cmt. Charles Lunsford** (Georgia).

According to Com. Brown, "I cannot praise [these men] enough for their devotion and service to our SCV."

on points earned for meetings, programs, heritage service projects, membership growth and retention, and Camp participation in Division and national projects and activities.

The South Carolina Division overall has grown by 40%, and an increase of 70% is expected by year's end. Two new Camps have been chartered: the Secession Camp in Charleston, and the Pvt. Thomas C. Chumley Camp at Clemson University.

Three other Camps have held organizational meetings. In discussing plans for the Division Div. Com. Brown said, "Our goal is to double the number of S.C. Camps by this time in 1992."



## Commentary

# SCV National Convention

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Two committees worked for an entire year preparing for this year's convention. First of all, the Permanent Headquarters Committee, after visiting and studying dozens of sites, concluded unanimously that Elm Springs was the best available site.

Secondly, the Planning Committee determined that in order to revamp and maintain a professional staff for the SCV, thus relieving the burden currently placed on 84 year old General McCain, there would need to be a five dollar increase in yearly dues.

But the fight for this headquarters has been difficult and, often, painful. For eight years, the controversy has been fierce. At the 1988 convention in Columbia we saw plans for a headquarters in Franklin, Tennessee crushed in a highly emotional quarrel. Emotions ran high this year as well.

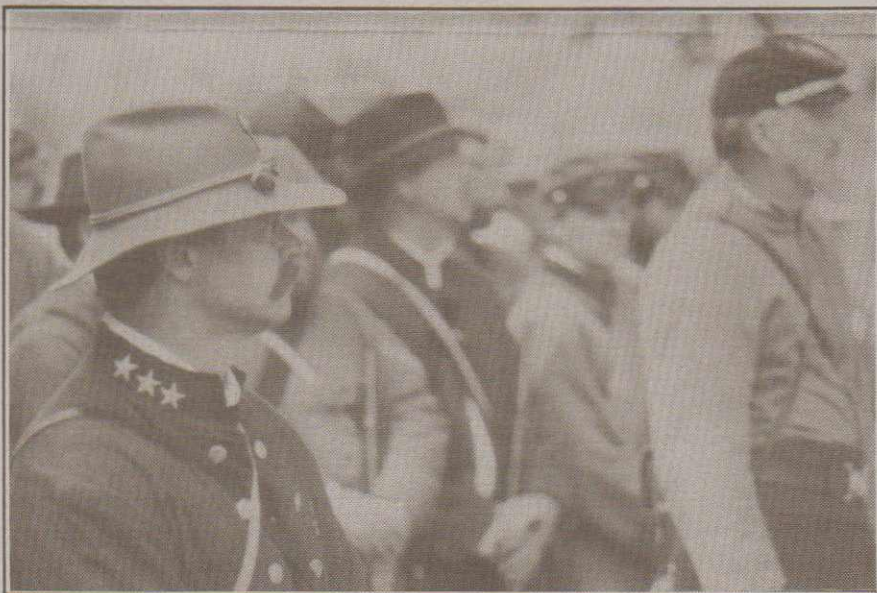
Unfortunately, few delegates knew of this ahead of time. As if the debate on Elm Springs was not enough of an issue, the dues increase was placed before the

convention on the same motion as the site, bringing the discussion to a fever pitch. There were also a number of concerns about the funding of the headquarters.

Both the Finance Officer and Gen. McCain painted gloomy pictures of what might happen if the organization's funds became too strained. But by Saturday morning there had already been personal pledges totalling over \$16,000, as well as numerous Camp Commanders pledging to raise \$1,000 by the end of the year. The MOSB pledged \$51,000 cash for their part of the project.

Although there was still a great deal of dissent concerning the dues increase, most delegates felt that there was no way to have a headquarters without a staff to run it. When the gavel sounded, it was certain that we finally had a place to call our home: Elm Springs, Tennessee. 1991 will go down in the annals of the Sons of Confederate Veterans as the year that we finally came of age.

*Sgt. Jim Ridge, and the PALMETTO BRIGADE at the Division Memorial Day services in Columbia.*



## Boy Scouts Ban Battleflag

Chief Scout Executive Ben Love recently announced that the use of the Confederate Flag was inappropriate for Scout programs and would no longer be permitted. Mr. Love based his decision on a complaint received from a Columbia youth who felt that some blacks might be offended by the banner.

The Confederate flag has been a consistent decoration in many Scout insignia and badges, in particular are the "Dixie Fellowship" patches worn by members of the Order of the Arrow (an honor camper society within the B.S.A.).

In announcing his decision Mr. Love said that the U.S. flag was the only acceptable flag for use by the Boy Scouts. The B.S.A. has also announced plans for a Learning for Life program aimed at accomodating atheists and homosexuals who are currently prevented from joining by the "Duty to God" and "Morally Straight" clauses of the Scout Oath.

If you would like to find out more contact your local Scout Council office, and

Mr. Ben Love,  
Chief Scout Executive  
Boy Scouts of America  
POB 152079  
Irving, Texas 75015-2079  
(214) 580-2000

Compatriots who are currently involved with the Scouting program are especially encouraged to inquire.

### Note:

The PALMETTO PARTISAN wishes to congratulate **Jim Ridge** and **Chris Snelgrove** who worked with the recent Living History at Skylyn School as well as other related educational activities.



## Dixie Diary

### Confederate Memorial Day

was held 11 May in Columbia. The Wade Hampton Camp organized the event, with the help of the PALMETTO BRIGADE. The service began at the Confederate enclosure at Elmwood Cemetery with a joint wreath laying ceremony with the UDC.

This followed by a parade down Main St. to the Capitol grounds. Speakers included **Senators Courson and McConnell** on the Capitol steps.

### "A Christian Interpretation of the War Between the States"

will be conducted by **Dr. Terry Rude** at Bob Jones University in Greenville.

**Dr. Rude**, a faculty member at the University and a Compatriot of the 16TH REG. Camp will examine the war with emphasis on the Christian testimony of the South's leaders, and the revivals that swept through the Southern Armies.

The course will be held on Monday evenings starting September 16. The course fee is \$25.

Contact BJU (242-5100).

### PALMETTO LIGHT ARTILLERY

prints, two hundred of which have been donated to the PALMETTO BATTALION by artist Dale Gallon, are now available. They are of the PLA at Gettysburg.

All proceeds from these prints, "Into the Mouth of Hell", will go to the Confederate Museum in Charleston. All prints have a remark with the flag of the PLA in the left corner. Costs are \$150 plus \$20 handling, checks payable to the PALMETTO BATTALION. Contact **Com. Randy Burbage**; 1131 Darwin Street, Charleston, SC 29412.

**PALMETTO BATTALION Schedule** for the remainder of 1991 is as follows;

9-10 November - Battle of Secessionville at Boone Hall Plantation, Charleston, SC.

7 - 8 December Battle of Rivers Bridge, Rivers Bridge State Park, Ehrhardt, SC.

### Compatriots of the J.B. Kershaw

Camp, while attending the national convention, conducted a short wreath laying service at Ft. Mitchell, Ala. in memory of Confederate Brig. Gen. James Cantey, a native of Camden.

**COS J.J. Fox** gave a brief history of Gen. Cantey. The 15TH ALABAMA, Cantey's first command, provided the honour guard and firing party. In atten-

dance were **Cmts. Tom White, Carlyle Baxley** and **Fox** of the Kershaw Camp. They were accompanied by **Jack Marlar, Dennis Todd** and **E.M. Clark**, as well as representatives of the Ga. and La. Divisions.

### "An Evening With...,"

an annual dinner and Grand Confederate Ball sponsored by the Greenville Camp, will be 23 Nov at the Poinsett Club. The evening's feature will once again be the 8TH REGIMENT BAND, GEORGIA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY from Rome, Georgia. All Compatriots are encouraged to attend.

Contact 1st Lt. **Com. Hugh Means** (Bus. 235-8310).

### The S.C. Division Remembers

Compatriots **Robert B. Dixon** and **Charles S. Coleman** who died this Summer. They were both members of the Wade Hampton Camp, in Columbia.

## WHAT IS THE SCV?

The Sons of Confederate Veterans is an association of male descendants of the men who served in the army or navy of the Confederate States of America. It is an historical and educational organization and is not affiliated with any other organization.

For more information contact:

SCV

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PETERSBURG VA 23803

or, call toll free: (800) 359-9000 Ext. 509

## The Palmetto Partisan

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